**NEWSLETTER – January 2019**

**Oadby Hillwalking Club**

[www.oadbyhwc.com](http://www.oadbyhwc.com/)

**OHWC COMMITTEE 2018-19**

Chairperson: Jenny Fox 0116-2911491

Secretary/Newsletter: Fiona Clarkson 0116-2793372

Treasurer: Alison Beckett 07557 199247

Walks Co-ordinator: Geoff Mattock 0116-2395381

Social: Eileen Pott 0780 0774029

Membership Secretary: Carol Hinks 0116-2592144

**Date for your Diaries: AGM 2019**

The AGM will take place 0n 24th April 2019. There will be vacancies on the committee, if you would be interested in joining the Committee please talk to any committee member.

**January Mid Month Walk**

20th January 2019 Meet at Old John Car Park LE6 0AH at 9:30, 8 miles led by Keith Yeomans.

**Next monthly walk Sunday 3rd February – Monsal Head**

**Coach departs:** Oadby Central Car Park (adjacent to the Trinity Methodist Church) at **8.00am** and will leave Monsal Head at **5:00**pm.

**Coach Route:** M1 J29, A617, A619, A623, B6465.

**Boot stop:** Tibshelf

**Map:** Outdoor Leisure 24

**Walk Leaders**

Andy McQuaid - Long Walk

Geoff Mattock, John Bastow, Eileen Pott - Medium walks

Jenny Fox - Short walk.

**Walk Routes.** To Mike Hinks, preferably as a gpx file or alternatively as a JPEG file by Thursday January 17th please. mike.hinks19@gmail.com

**Walk Route Map**

*Please go onto the News section of the Club website,*[www.oadbyhwc.com](http://www.oadbyhwc.com/)*a few days before the monthly walk, to see a map showing the walk routes.* *Hopefully this will speed up selecting your walk when signing up on the coach.*

**Prospective walkers – please contact the group email address to book a seat on the bus this month:** OHWCmail@gmail.com. You will receive a reply confirming the availability or otherwise of a seat. You are reminded that it is first come first served. If you delay booking you may not get a seat. Please do not turn up without booking and receiving confirmation that you have a place. You must book a place on the coach in advance or you may not be allowed on as it picks up at various places on the ring road members who have already booked a seat.

If you wish to be picked up, at other places than the Oadby Car Park, please mention where when booking and please be aware that very occasionally another Woods coach may go past before ours arrives. Members can book for the next month’s walk on the return journey back to Oadby. You don’t have to wait for the Club meeting or the Newsletter.

**Bus Fares –** preferably by cheque payable to “Oadby Hillwalking Club” or simply “O.H.W.C.”

Adult Members £12, Junior/Student Members £5, Guests/Visitors + £3. (subject to review at the AGM)

**Cancellations - members and guests *- Cancellations up to Tuesday Midnight before the Sunday walk - no penalty. Cancellations thereafter - full cost of the bus fare due. (AGM 2011).******Please send fare due to the Treasurer, Alison Beckett, 5 Spinney View, Great Glen, Leics, LE8 9EP***

**Boot/Toilet Stop**

**Members are urged to keep the time taken at the boot stop to a minimum.** At the end of the walk members should change their footwear and place dirty boots and rucksacks in the luggage locker before getting onto the coach, thus avoiding any congestion and mud in the coach.

***Those getting off the coach at Fosse Park and the Ring Road, may alternatively, put your dirty kit into a “Bin Liner” and then take it onto the coach; thus negating having to search for your kit in the bus Luggage Locker.***

**Interested in being a Walk Leader?** Please speak to any Committee Member, who will gladly arrange this for you – or better still come along to our Club Meetings.

**Monthly Club Meetings**

Monthly club meetings are held on the Wednesday after the Sunday walk at the Wigston Conservative Club, 38 Long Street, Wigston, Leicester, LE18 2AH at 7.30pm. All club members are welcome and we would like to see you. (You won’t get given a job)

**Safety Form and Emergency Personal Details**

Please make sure that you are carrying your completed Club Safety Form in the top of your rucksack - it could help you in a difficult situation. N.B. Don’t forget to keep the form up to date. The form is available on the Club Website www.oadbyhwc.com

The club walk organisers are not qualified guides. You join them at your own risk and of your own free will. You are part of an autonomous group, responsible for your own safety and happy to accept the discretion and actions of any or all the participants on that organised walk or activity in the event of injury to you, the need to have you rescued or otherwise.

Essential Wear - N.B. Jeans and, or trainers/sandals are NOT suitable

Members and guests must be suitably equipped and as a minimum this must include:

❖ Suitable walking boots

❖ waterproof coat and over-trousers

❖ warm clothing

❖ an appropriate rucksack.

❖ food and drink for the whole day

❖ a First Aid Kit is recommended

If you are not properly equipped for hillwalking you may not be able to participate.

Please do not wear dirty boots on the bus even at the start of the day.

Only “Registered Assistance Dogs” are allowed on club walks except on midmonth walks at the discretion of the walk leader.

**Sunday Monthly Walks by coach: 2018/2019**

Returns at 5pm during GMT and 5.30pm during BST.

2019

March 3rd Hathersage 5:00pm

April 7th Disley 5:30pm

May 12th Cleeve Hill 5:30pm

**Members Special Offer**

Due to high levels of attendance over the summer months the committee have decided to give all members one free coach fare, to be taken by the end of April 2019. Claim your free ride on your next walk if you haven’t claimed it yet.

**Almoner’s Report**

*If you know of any member that is poorly or unable to walk for any reason, please let one of the committee know.*

**Mid month walk Sunday 16th December -** Catherine Gwinnett

Saddington-Mowsley-Laughton-Gumley-Saddington

On a bright chilly morning six enthusiastic walkers met at the Queen’s Head in Saddington before setting off across the frosty fields towards Mowsley. The iced over medieval fishponds, the bare trees and the ancient hawthorn hedges looked beautiful in the winter sunshine.

In Mowsley we were joined by another member of the group and we continued on to Laughton where we sat on the pews in the small church and enjoyed our xmas treat of mince pies and stollen. The village was very quiet and we had a look at the old cottages as we walked by. The thatched mud walls surrounding the churchyard were particularly interesting. We headed out of the quiet village in the direction of Gumley.

After the short but steep climb into Gumley we walked along the main street in the village, resisting the temptation to call in at the Bell, then followed a section of the Leicestershire Round up to Smeeton Gorse. We spotted a red kite circling overhead as we walked up the hill where we paused to take in the fantastic 360 views of the countryside and the reservoir below us. On such a clear day it was easy to pick out familiar landmarks around the county.

On very enjoyable the 8 mile walk we managed to go up and down some of the relatively few hills in Leicestershire and we climbed more than a few stiles!

Returning to Saddington we sat outside the pub for a well-deserved hot drink.

**Walk report for “medium” walk, Matlock** \_Eileen Pott

I cannot pretend that I wasn’t a tad apprehensive on the coach journey there as I am a novice at leading OHWC’s walks, so I was greatly relieved to see that 8 people actually signed up for my walk. We were the last group to leave the coach in Matlock and then picked up another 2 people who had missed their group alighting several miles earlier, dozy pair. So we were a jolly band of 10.

The morning went according to plan with lots of steep ups and downs, a good way to work up an appetite. One or two navigational hiccups were quickly corrected and, hopefully, unnoticed by the rest of our merry band. We had coffee stop on a random grassy field before joining the Limestone Way all the way to a very welcome lunch break in Winster.

We ate our sandwiches in the churchyard in Winster. It transpires that Winster is famous for a duel that was fought in 184something between a gentleman of the borough who was courting a certain young lady named Mary and one of Mary’s brothers who was extremely unhappy at this liaison. Mary’s brother challenged the would be lover to a duel. The gentleman declined the offer. Mary’s brother turned up at the lover’s house later with 2 more brothers and 2 pistols. The lover was unfortunately shot and died shortly afterwards. Mary’s brother was found guilty of murder but absconded, believed to be to Australia, and was never heard of again. Poor, poor Mary is all I can think. So thanks to Elton for that fascinating bit of info.

The afternoon went off smoothly, albeit involving fallen trees, some extremely squelchy and muddy bits in a wood and a relatively short but extremely steep hill.

We arrived back at the coach as dusk was descending. JJ found us a lovely bar/coffee shop which didn’t believe in using much water in either teapots or the hot water tap in the ladies toilet. I can only imagine what must have been in the coffee.